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IN REPLYING
ADDRESS THE SURGEON GENERAL
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Tbc. Research Laboratory,
411 East 69th St., New York 21, N. Y.

June 19, 1950.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg,
Department of Genetics,
The University of Wisconsin,
College of Agriculture,
Madison 6, Wisconsin.

Dear Josh:

Do you have an absolute pantothenic-less mutant (which does not grow on either β -alanine or pantoic acid or the mixture, and is not temperature sensitive)?

I have been working on a temperature sensitive pantothenic-less mutant in our strain, and am now wondering whether temperature sensitivity is due to an allelic change at the pantothenic-less locus or to mutation at a different gene locus. I have been trying to get pantothenic-less mutants in K-12, both absolute and temperature sensitive, but to my surprise, of the 120 pantothenic-less mutants which I have isolated, all turned out to be temperature sensitive (they grow even faster than wild type at room temperature without pantothenate, but require pantothenate at 37°).

If you do not have a non-temperature sensitive pantothenic-less mutant, would you mind sending me your wild type again? I have a hunch that something might have happened in our wild type strain which makes all these pantothenic-less mutants come out temperature sensitive.

Sincerely yours,

Werner

Werner K. Maas

WKM/hl